December 2011

SEASON’S GREETINGS

Season's Greetings. As the Holiday Season is upon us, we find ourselves reflecting on the past year. We value our relationship with Libraries Australia members and look forward to working with you in the year to come. We wish you a very happy Holiday Season and a New Year filled with peace and prosperity.

LIBRARIES AUSTRALIA HELP DESK AVAILABILITY OVER THE HOLIDAY SEASON

The Libraries Australia Help Desk has put together some key information to help you prepare for the holiday period.

Availability:
23 December 9.00 am - 12.30pm

27 December to 2 January 2012 - Closed

Normal 9.00 am to 5.00 pm service resumes Tuesday 3 January 2012

What to do before closing down:

Please ensure you suspend your location using the procedures found in the LADD manual online. Remember to remove your suspension when the library reopens.
It is not necessary to send a message to the Libraries Australia DocDel list as the Members and Suspension Directory gives all the notification necessary to all libraries.

ILL etiquette is that you do not make requests or action requests whilst suspended as this can cause messaging problems.

AT THE LIBRARIES AUSTRALIA FORUM 2011

The sixth annual Libraries Australia Forum was held at the National Wine Centre in Adelaide on 27 October 2011. The Forum was part of three days of related events including the Libraries Australia Advisory Committee (LAAC) meeting, a Libraries Australia Forum Welcome Reception and four library tours on 26 October, the Australian Committee on Cataloguing Seminar and a Libraries Australia ISO ILL Partners Meeting on 28 October.

The opening address and welcome was given by the State Library of South Australia’s Associate Director, Sue Lewis. Keynote speakers at the Forum were Caroline Brazier, Director of Scholarship and Collections, The British Library, who spoke about the future of library collections and collection management; Jenny McDonald, Manager, Customer Engagement, National Library of New Zealand, the Department of Internal Affairs Te Tari Taiwhenua who spoke about libraries maximising their value in a constantly changing world, and; Geoff Strempel, Associate Director, Public Library Services, State Library of South Australia who spoke about the challenges facing public libraries. Assistant-Director General, Resource Sharing Dr Marie-Louise Ayres presented Libraries Australia: the year in review. Amongst other highlights, Forum delegates heard a presentation on Trove 4.0: click through to subscription services from Debbie Campbell, Director of Collaborative Services and Libraries Australia Search Project’s Alison Dellit introduced the Libraries Australia Search Redevelopment Project.

MEET THE LIBRARIES AUSTRALIA TRAINERS
In this and upcoming newsletters, we will include a biographical article about each of our Libraries Australia trainers.

This quarter it gives us great pleasure to introduce Helen Loosli.

Helen has been the accredited LADD trainer for NSW since 2001 and has frequently conducted courses utilising all functional aspects of the LADD system through many upgrades of the VDX software.

As a key member of the UNILINC library network for over 25 years Helen is currently the Training Co-ordinator, Circulation Co-ordinator and shares the role of ISO ILL Administrator for UNILINC. Since 1985 Helen has been instrumental in training hundreds of library staff across a wide range of library activities and software developments. In this capacity Helen has developed considerable experience, expertise and knowledge of Circulation and ILL systems.

Helen was co-leader of the successful implementation of the UNILINC Network's Aleph ISO-ILL system. This involved extensive liaison and interoperability testing with NLA staff. She believes that her familiarity with both the VDX and Aleph ILL software helps her to better understand the issues and common problems related to ISO ILL systems.

As a direct result of her ISO ILL experiences, each LADD course incorporates workflow practices, reference to the NLA benchmarking studies to streamline ILL practices, and promotion of the benefits of using the Libraries Australia Search interface as a discovery tool for locating available library holdings. The inclusion of these key principles in the LADD training courses ensures that staff returning to their libraries will have the necessary and appropriate skills that will help them to be better LADD practitioners resulting in a more efficiently managed ILL service.

LADD training courses in NSW are run regularly at the UNILINC Office in the heart of the Sydney CBD. Onsite training is available upon application. Please visit the Libraries Australia Training and Support page for details of upcoming NSW LADD training courses or for courses in other states.

CONTRIBUTING YOUR RECORDS VIA OAI

Did you know that Libraries Australia has tested and implemented a new option for
contributing records to the ANBD using OAI-PMH (Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting).

It involves records being regularly harvested from a library's OAI repository and uploaded to Libraries Australia via our Record Import Service.

There are two advantages of contributing records via OAI-PMH: firstly, new and updated records are automatically requested via a regular schedule, so that you don’t have to upload files to the ANBD manually, and secondly, records contributed this way that are marked for deletion will be automatically deleted from Libraries Australia. This means that your organisation can keep its holdings up to date on Libraries Australia (depending on the frequency of the regular harvest).

In September, 2080 Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office manuscripts records were successfully harvested via OAI, and then imported to the ANBD using RIS. They are now viewable in Trove, and WorldCat.

A number of other libraries – including the State Libraries of New South Wales and Queensland are also working with us to load some of their manuscript collections. This is a key step in achieving the NSLA Reimagining Libraries Project 8 aim of increasing exposure of NSLA special collections in national and international services.

Want to know more? Questions? Please contact us through our online enquiry form.

EXTENDING THE SCOPE OF TROVE: ADDITION OF E-RESOURCES SUBSCRIBED TO BY AUSTRALIAN LIBRARIES

Trove, the national discovery service for Australia was released by the National Library of Australia in December 2009. At that time it contained metadata for 80 million freely accessible items, including those harvested from 1,000 contributing Australian institutions. The focus was on Australia and Australians. Trove demonstrated innovation in resource discovery and access.

In 2010 it was decided to extend the scope of Trove to include selected sets of e-resources subscribed to by Australian libraries. The work to implement this was undertaken over six months from November 2010 — May 2011, in partnership with the National State and Territory Libraries of Australasia (NSLA) Reimagining Libraries Open Borders Project and two e-resource vendors, Gale Cengage and RMIT. A primary goal of the development work was to see if a theoretical model for national access of subscription resources translated into a practical workable model.

The work was successful and in May 2011, version 4.0 of Trove was released, which contained 120 million subscription e-resources for Australians. This took the Trove content total to almost 240 million items. Extending the scope of Trove to include e-resources subscribed to by Australian libraries was part of the National Library's strategic planning. Australian users of Trove are now able to access subscription e-resources within Trove when they are a member of an Australian library that has subscribed to a product included in Trove.

This article in November/December 2011 issue of D-Lib Magazine describes why and how the work was undertaken, what was achieved, the issues and future plans for development.
VALE - IAN DAY 1952-2011

On Tuesday November 15 Libraries Australia staff received the sad news that NBD team member, Ian Day, had passed away unexpectedly the previous weekend.

Ian started at the National Library on 4 September 1975 and spent the next 36 years working in various sections of the National Library including the ANB (Australian National Bibliography), Cataloguing, National Union Catalogue – Serials, (NUCOS), National Union Catalogue – Monographs (NUCOM), ABN, Kinetica and finally the NBD - National Bibliographic Database section.

Ian was a very quiet and private man who was always very warm and pleasant, and often enjoyed a laugh with his colleagues. He worked conscientiously over many years to improve the quality of the NBD. He was always very good at training new staff working on data quality.

Ian also enjoyed very good health during his 36 years at the Library, so his sudden death was a great shock to everyone. He will be missed.

Editor: Laurel Paton
Except where otherwise noted, content in this newsletter is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia Licence.